THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the information contained in the report entitled 'National Science Report' carried out by National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER), the poroportion of the students enrolled in science courses has gone up from 28.8% of the population in 1995-1996 to 34.6% in 2003-2004.

(c) to (d) A Task Force was set up by the Government for strengthening basic science education and research within the existing university system. The recommendations *inter-alia* include to create 1000 positions of research scientists at various levels, five fold increase in the number of Ph.Ds from Indian Universities and provisions of fellowships in basic sciences for pursuing Doctoral research etc. The report has been given to the University Grants Commission (UGC) for further action.

Special school for tribal children

1408. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the functioning of special schools for tribal children on the model of public schools in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to open such special schools for the benefits of tribal children in other Sates also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) Government is not aware of the functioning of special schools for tribal children on the model of public schools in Rajasthan. Under the scheme of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV), 750 residential schools have been set up upto upper primary level for girls predominantly belonging to SC, ST, OBC and Minorities, so far. Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides grants to various States including Rajasthan for setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) for providing quality education to Scheduled Tribe students from class VI to XII on the lines of Navodaya Vidyalayas. So far, 100 EMRS have been sanctioned. The State-wise break-up of KGBV and EMRS is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

State-wise break-up of KGBVs and EMRS

Name of State	No. of KGBVs Schools	No. of EMRS
Andhra Pradesh	94	8
Assam	—	2
Bihar	62	—
Gujarat	30	10
Haryana	1	—
Himachal Pradesh	9	1
Jammu & Kashmir	14	2
Karnataka	58	4
Kerala	—	2
Madhya Pradesh	70	12
Maharashtra	27	4
Manipur	—	3
Orissa	49	10
Rajasthan	56	7
Punjab	2	—
Sikkim	—	2
Tamil Nadu	37	2
Tripura	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	32	1
West Bengal	54	7
Arunachal Pradesh	14	1
Meghalaya	1	2
Mizoram	—	1
Nagaland	—	3
Jharkhand	74	4
Chhattisgarh	51	8
Uttaranchal	13	1
TOTAL:	750	100